Arlington Redevelopment Board September 23, 2013 2nd Floor Conference Room, Town Hall annex – 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Mike Cayer, Chair, Bruce Fitzsimmons, Andy West, Christine Scypinski

STAFF: Carol Kowalski, Laura Wiener

Mr. Cayer called the meeting to order and expressed sorrow regarding the sudden passing of AnnMarie Casey, the Administrative Assistant for the Planning Department, who had worked with the Redevelopment Board. He expressed condolences to her family.

AGENDA ITEM: Mr. Cayer turned to the subject of master plan objectives. Ms. Kowalski explained that the Board was not required to have objectives, but that this was the time to communicate any agenda or outcome the Board may hold for the master plan. Mr. Fitzsimmons stressed two points of importance for the master plan, 1) to improve the vitality, variety and appearance of the commercial centers in town, and future development should have a public amenity. Parking is a concern—decking Russell Common lot, the feasibility of one day extending the Red Line without sacrificing the Minuteman bike path, and 2) Development of a Mill Brook linear park which creates opportunity for new businesses.

Ms. Scypinski, the Board's liaison to the Master Plan Advisory Committee, commented that she finds it an open, comprehensive process, and wanted to allow the Master Plan Advisory Committee to continue the work it was doing, rather than offer objectives from the Board. She supports the Mill Brook concept and addressing climate change throughout the master plan's goals and objectives

Mr. Bunnell agreed that the vitality of the commercial areas was an important objective. He also stated that a firm business expansion and retention plan to keep businesses in town was important.

Mr. West elaborated on the opportunity and priority of making the Mill Brook a priority in the Master Plan. He explained the benefits of linking the bike path, the Mill Brook and Mass Ave together, and how this could benefit every element of the master plan.

ACTION: The Board agreed with Mr. West, and asked Ms. Kowalski to see if Mr. West could be placed on an October agenda of the Master Plan Advisory Committee to explain the Mill Brook vision to the Committee.

The Board then amended and approved several sets of meeting prior to adjourning.

Respectfully submitted Carol Kowalski Secretary ex officio

Minutes approved 11-4-13